

The Gathering @ HTB Sunday evening meetings on Zoom



OUR CURRENT FOCUS

A study of Matthew chapters 5 – 7: 'The Sermon on the Mount'

Over the next few months, we will be looking at 'The Sermon on the Mount', which is a crucial part of Jesus' teaching. Not only for the time it was given but also for believers these days.

Jesus often relates back to the 10 Commandments, by which the religious Jews would have lived. He gives them new perspective, and new meaning. E.g. 'do not murder' is now re-taught as do not act out of anger, if you do you will be subject to the same judgment as a murderer! This is challenging for all to hear!

The teachings of Jesus in Matthew 5, 6 and 7 are not only challenging but often contrary to worldly behaviours. We learn a lot about the characteristics of the kingdom and its subjects (us) by studying this passage. Jesus calls for purity of the heart, not just the outward actions.

In terms of where we go week by week, we'll work our way through the headings through the passage.

Chapter 5:

- Beatitudes
 - The 'upside-down-ness' of the kingdom of heaven
- Salt and Light
 - $\circ~$ Those in the kingdom and what they bring
- Fulfilment of the law
 - $\circ~$ Jesus' total authority
- Murder
 - The position of our hearts towards others
- Adultery
 - Handling the desires of our heart
- Divorce, oaths and promises
 - $\circ~$ How we position ourselves in other's lives
- Love your enemies
 - $\circ~$ How to handle those with whom we struggle

<u>Chapter 6 and 7</u> in due course, that's enough to get our teeth into for now!